GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3696
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
CENTRAL ASSISTANCE
PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL;RAM SINGH KASWAN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any action plan to meet the drought situation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also provided Central assistance for the purpose during the last two years, till June 30, 2000; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; particularly Gujarat and Rajasthan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. A Group of Secretaries to evolve a comprehensive contingency plan to meet the situation of possible inadequate and delayed monsoon this year has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. The Group would develop a comprehensive action plan to meet the contingency of delayed/inadequate monsoon.

(c) & (d) : The State Governments undertake necessary relief and rehabilitation measures for the people affected by natural calamities including drought. States are provided assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). In addition to the CRF, support to State Governments is also provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the event of calamities of rare severity. The assistance provided to Gujarat and Rajasthan under CRF and NFCR in the wake of drought for the last two years is as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

State	Year	CRF	NFCR
Gujarat	1999-2000	121.05	54.58
	2000-2001	131.14	-
Rajasthan	1999-2000	155.25	102.93
	2000-2001	168.18	-

In addition to the relief measures, the Area Development Programmes, viz., Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IRDP) and National Watershed Development Project in Rain Fed Areas (NWDPRA) are administered by the Government on a continuing basis with the basic objective of drought proofing the project areas in the long run. The main focus of these programmes is to prevent occurrence of drought.